Oxfordshire Guardian
City edition
inc Oxford Journal (Est. 1753)
FREE INSIDE PROPERTY WEEKLY

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What's on in OXFORDSHIRE
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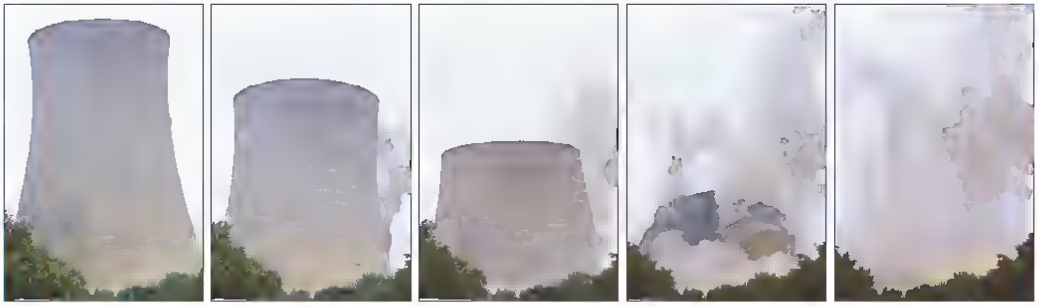
FREE! Pick me up

Thursday July 31 Wednesday August 6 2014 Advertising/Newsdesk. 01235 511700 www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

GOING, GOING, GONE



OXFORDSHIRE S skyline will never be the same after Didcot A s southern cooling towers were demolished in the early hours of Sunday morning.

The three towers were blown down at 5am as morning broke.

All that was left was a gap where the iconic structures once stood.

Thousands gathered in Didcot and at high points across the county to watch the demolition, which saw the towers vanish from their 46-year home in just 12 seconds.

The spectacle was trending as the second most popular topic in the UK on Twitter as many turned to social media to discuss the demolition.

Vicky Gashe tweeted: "Bit sad that an iconic feature of the landscape of my childhood has gone."

Olivia Kennedy added: "Stayed up all night to witness the sad moment they blew up half of Didcot Power Station."

See page 5 for the full story

JAIL FOR LIFE

JAYDEN Parkinson's controlling and jealous ex boyfriend Ben Blakeley has been sentenced to life behind bars after being found guilty of her murder.

Blakeley 22 of Christchurch Road Reading, strangled the pregnant 17 year-old from Didcot in a field near Upton on December 3 and will serve a minimum of 20 years in jail.

He buried her in the field on December 5 before digging up her body and putting her in an established grave in a cemetery by All Saints' Church Didcot four days later.

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Jayden's family spoke outside St Aldates police station after the conviction and said they 'would never be able to find an ounce of forgiveness' for Blakeley.

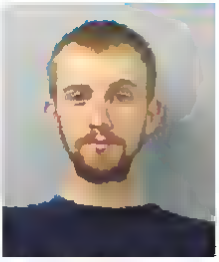
The jury found Blakeley guilty of murder last Thursday at Oxford Crown Court and he was sentenced a day later.

Judge Patrick Eccles said the way Jayden's body was buried was "heartless and distressing" and described Blakeley as a "violent abuser."

He said: "Like so many other victims of domestic violence Jayden was infatuated with you, her violent abuser and found it difficult to separate emotionally from you.

"You deliberately and selfishly encouraged her emotional dependence on you by manipulating her feelings through fear and neediness."

Turn to page 2 for reaction on Blakeley's sentencing from Jayden's family and Thames Valley Police.



• MURDERER Ben Blakeley

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Graveyard burial case was a UK first

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

THE murder of Didcot teenager Jayden Parkinson was the first case of its kind, police have said.

The 17-year-old's body was found in an existing grave in a cemetery by All Saints' Church – something officers who investigated the case say has never happened before in the UK.

Ben Blakeley, 22, of Christchurch Road, Reading, was jailed for life at Oxford Crown Court last Friday, with a minimum of 20 years for her murder in December.

Detective superintendent Chris Ward said: "There were two predominantly unique features.

"The first one is that we charged somebody with murder before we found Jayden's body which is always going to make a situation more complicated.

"That situation was also made more complicated by the fact that Ben Blakeley lied and deceived the police and frustrated our investigation.

"And the second unique feature is that he buried her in a pre-existing grave and we're satisfied that that hasn't ever happened in the UK before."

Blakeley murdered his pregnant ex-girlfriend in a field near Upton on December 3 by strangulation.

He buried Jayden in the field on December 5 before digging her up and moving her to his uncle Alan Kennedy's grave four days later.

In sentencing Blakeley, judge Patrick Eccles said Jayden was strangled to death "in a jealous rage".

Judge Eccles said he believed Jayden was pregnant and Blakeley "dominated and controlled her every day life".

As Blakeley was taken down to the cells somebody from the public gallery shouted "See you in hell".

Blakeley showed no emotion as he was sentenced and was also given eight years to be served concurrently for perverting the course of justice.

Judge Eccles described Blakeley's decision to dig up Jayden's body as "shocking".

He added: "Though in your twisted mind you may possibly have thought a graveyard was a better place for Jayden to be buried than a ditch in a field there was no hint of respect or remorse in this hasty interment.

"I am convinced your primary purpose was to prevent anyone else from ever knowing what had happened to Jayden Parkinson."

Jayden's father Paul died of a heart attack a week before the trial started. Judge Eccles said "he must have been haunted by the thought" of what happened to his daughter.

A victim impact statement from Jayden's mother Samantha Shrewsbury said: "When I visit Jayden's grave it breaks my heart to not be able to hold Jayden safe in my arms, take her home with me and tell her how so very much I love her."

The jury was discharged in the case of Blakeley's 17-year-old brother Jake who pleaded guilty to perverting the course of justice but not guilty to preventing a lawful burial.

The Crown Prosecution Service has until tomorrow to decide if there will be a re-trial.

MURDERER Ben Blakeley

VICTIM Jayden Parkinson

Family 'will never get to see Jayden grow up'

JAYDEN Parkinson's family said their "nightmare would never end" after Ben Blakeley was jailed for life for murdering the teenager last December.

Blakeley was sentenced at Oxford Crown Court last Friday.

Jayden's family released a statement outside St Aldate's police station shortly after.

Her mum Samantha Shrewsbury broke down as she spoke about her daughter's death.

Jayden's grandfather Eric supported her by reading the rest of the statement.

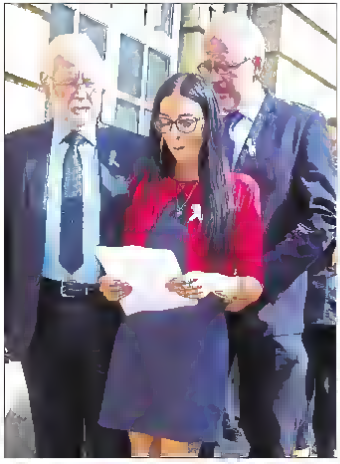
They said: "Despite the sentencing of Ben Blakeley our nightmare will never end.

"We can never erase from our minds the pain that was inflicted on Jayden, nor can we erase the image of Jayden's shattered and bruised body.

"We will never be able to celebrate birthdays, Easter or Christmas with Jayden and we will never get to see Jayden grow up, get married and have children.

"There is our life sentence. It is now time for Ben Blakeley to start his."

They added they would "never be able to find an ounce of forgiveness for the evil that murdered Jayden and then concealed her body in such a cold, calculated and cunning manner."


Jayden's mother Samantha Shrewsbury (centre) reading the statement on Friday

News Bites

Healthwatch

OXON Rachel Coney has been named as the new chief executive of the county's health and social care watchdog.

Ms Coney, who previously spent nine years working within the NHS, began her new role with Healthwatch Oxfordshire on July 21.

She said: "My priority will be to strengthen our position in Oxfordshire so that we can have the maximum impact on the development and delivery of health and social care services on behalf of those who use them."

Traffic jams

OXON Roundabout works between Hinksey and Heyford Hill interchanges have caused major tailbacks in and around the city.

A 24-hour contraflow system was put in place between the two interchanges on Monday and is expected to last until November.

The work has caused major delays on the A34 southbound carriageway with drivers queuing as far as the Milton Interchange.

WWI: lights out

CHERWELL Residents and businesses in the district will be switching off their lights for an hour from 10pm on Monday August 4, to mark 100 years since Britain entered the First World War.

A solitary candle or lamp at Cherwell District Council's Bodicote House offices will be left alight during the hour to support the national Lights Out event.

The initiative was organised by the Department for Media Culture and Sport.

Talented footballer in hotel fall tragedy

THE mother of a young foot baller has described her son as her "absolute everything" after he tragically died on holiday in Turkey last week

Jordan Tabor (below) 23 from Oxford fell from his hotel bal cony at the Titanic Beach Hotel in Antalya on July 23

It is unknown how the tragedy happened

His mum Louise Bates from Wootton near Abingdon has led tributes to the talented young footballer who went to Cokethorpe School near Wit ney

Personally to me, he was my absolute everything," she said "I know lots of people have said

By Jack Johnson
jack@taylornewspapers.co.uk

hew he was their "best friend" but he re ally was mine!

"He never stopped wanting to give me that hug and kiss and tell me he loved me

"He would always call or text me with gossip about a night out or a football result or goal to see if I had seen it!"

Mrs Bates said he was an "amazing brother" to younger siblings Finley and Charlie and "deeply loved" his two other brothers Jake and Connor

She added "I know that Fin ley and Cherlie will both keep the football kicking in memory of their big brother whom both they and the rest of his family adored especially his dad and grandparents as being their first grandchild was the apple of their eye."

Mr Tabor a former Chel sea trainee who went on to play for Cheltenham Town, Didcot Town Kidlington and AFC Hinksey was on holiday with his girlfriend Danielle McEachran

Miss McEachran posted on social media site Instagram "I lost my best friend my whole world and my meme I love you so much Jord!"

We will miss you so much my beautiful baby and will see you soon I love you so much. Good night meme."

Miss McEachran s brother Josh who plays for Chelsea, also paid tribute to Mr Tabor on social media

He tweeted "Rest in peace my older brother Jordan Tabor Love you forever mate!

Mr Tabor's former clubs have also sent their condolences to the family

Steve Clare, press officer at Didcot Town FC described him as a "smashing lad".

• Jordan Tabor during his time with Didcot Town died while on holiday in Turkey last week

He added "Jordan, or Tabes as he was with his colleagues on the pitch it s terribly sad news."

Chelsea FC also released a statement saying the club was "in shock and saddened

Mr Tabor s funeral will take place at St Trinity Church Cen dini Road Abingdon at 12pm on Tuesday August 4

An inquest date into Mr Tabor's death has yet to be announced

News Bites

Get swimming

OXFORD Vouchers for cheaper swimming sessions at city council pools have gone on offer for the summer

Visitors can get five swims for £5 at Barton Leisure Cen tre, Blackbird Leys Pool and Temple Cowley Pool until Sep tember 1

Mark Lygo city council board member for parks, sport and events said "This offer is a fantastic way for people to get back into swimming."

For more details on the offer, go to gotoxfordshireactive org/ current-offers

It's storytime

OXFORD The Story Museum on Pembroke Street is host ing its latest theme week from Tuesday offering tales and craft activities based on outlawe

Just William Week will see the museum s shed open from 10am to 5pm until August 9 offering stories outdoor play and the chance to make bead dresses and catapults

Go to storymuseum.org.uk for more information about upcoming events

Canning resigns

OXFORD City councillor Anne Marie Canning has resigned from her Carfax seat making her the second Labour representative to step down since the May elections

Ms Canning was elected in 2012 when she beat Green candidate Adam Ramsay by 53 votes

Her decision follows on from Labour s Helen O'Hara who resigned from her Cowley seat following the election.

A by election is scheduled to take place within 35 days.

Pair charged after demonstrations in Oxford city centre over the weekend

TWO people have been charged following demonstrations in Oxford on Saturday although Thames Valley Police said the march passed "without major concern"

People claiming to represent the far right National Front party clashed in the city centre with a counter demonstration by groups including Oxford Unite Against Fascism.

A 21-year old woman and 26 year-old man both from Oxford, were charged with obstructing or resisting a con stable in the execution of duty

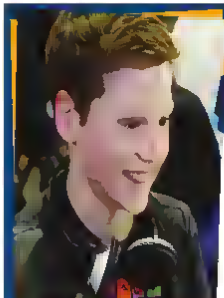
Two others were also arrested on Saturday one for the same offence and another for the theft of a flag – and both received cau tions

Superintendent Christian Bunt local police commander for Oxford said "I am pleased that these demonstrations passed with minimal disrup tion

"There were a handful of arrests made over the course of the day however the vast majority of those taking part were well behaved

"The demonstrations had understandably caused concern among some of our communities and I would like to thank them for their tolerance co operation and patience."

A protest over the current conflict in Israel was also held on the same day following on from a previous demonstration held on July 14.



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Didcot Power Station: Did you know?

- The power station was designed by architect Fre derick Gibberd
- It cost £104million to build
- Building work started in 1964 and was completed in 1968 with commercial operations starting in 1970
- The last megawatt of power was produced in March 2013
- The site covers over 150 acres of land
- About 110 acres has been sold to Clowes Develop ments
- Didcot A's main chimney is 200m tall and is made up of 032 000 flu hnung bricks
- The cooling towers are 113m tall and 93m wide
- 7,500 separate demoli tion charges were used to demolish the southern cooling towers
- In the last five years before its closure, Didcot A pro duced enough electricity to make almost one trillion cups of tea
- Didcot A could generate enough power to meet the needs of two million households

Towers topple in style from skyline

By Jack Johnson
jack@informnewspapers.co.uk

DIDCOT Power Station s southern cooling towers stood for 46 years but it took just 12 seconds for them to vanish from Oxfordshire s skyline on Sunday morning

The three towers were blown down at 5am.

All that remains is the base of one of the structures

RWE npower executives and members of the press watched the demolition from Didcot B Power Station.

And thousands gathered at high points across Oxfordshire to watch the towers being blown down.

Phil Noake, former Didcot A station manager, was among those watching and described the site of the towers coming down as "awful"

The cooling towers, which were built in 1960, were demolished with 180kg of explosives.

Npower bosses said the demolition process went safely and contractors Coleman & Company will remove the part at the structure that remains.

Kevin Nix, head of RWE Generation UK, said "There is still a little bit of structure left, but the contractors say that is no great issue - they can just clear that with machinery."

He added: "I worked at the power station a couple of times in my career and it was a great place to work so it was very sad to see it starting to disappear.

"There is a lot of demolition still to do and it will still be around for a year or two but it is a sad day to see it go."

Alan Robinson, chief commercial officer at RWE Generation, added: "I did my training here back in the early 1980s and lived here for many years so personally I'm a little bit sad.

"But I've accepted for a long time that the era of coal stations is coming to an end."

Didcot A Power Station began commercial operation in 1970 and closed in March last year after 43 years of generation.

• Didcot Power Station's cooling towers toppling

The demolition of the entire site will last for a further two years with the chimney the last structure to be blown down in 2016.

About 116 acres of land at the site has been sold to developers Clowes Developments.

The remaining 70 acres will be retained for future power generation development.

Mr Robinson added: "We're talking to other parties and local authorities about the future of the site but I expect it will be sold off for commercial development in tune with the rest of this part of Oxfordshire."

The station had to shut after opting out of a European Union Large Combustion Plant Directive in 2004. It had to stop generating power after 20,000 hours.

'An upsetting spectacle' - says ex-boss

DIDCOT A Power Station s former manager described the sight of the southern cooling towers being blown up as "the end of an era" on Sunday morning.

Phil Noake, who worked at the power station for 20 years watched from Didcot B Power Station as the three towers were demolished at 5am.

Mr Noake told the Oxfordshire Guardian: "It is the end of an era.

"Having spent 20 years of my life and 40-odd years in the industry, to see them come down brings a tear to my eye."

Mr Noake, now retired, added: "It was a big spectacle, but it was not something I looked forward to at all.

"The worst time was when we stopped generation, but to now see it torn apart and blown down is very upsetting."

• Phil Noake
(Picture by Jack Johnson)

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News Bites

Green awards

OXFORD Brookes University's three city campuses have received Green Flag Awards for a third year in a row

Harcourt Hill Headington and Wheatley campuses have all been given the accolade which rewards efforts to reduce litter and encourage pride in green spaces

Five Oxford City Council parks — Blackbird Leys Cutteslowe and Sunnymead Florence Hinksey and Bury Knowle — also received Green Flag Awards

Car hits man

BLACKBIRD LEYS A man was hit by a car after an argument with a woman near Evenlode Tower on Sunday

At about 1am a man and woman had a fight near the tower block

A short time later the man was hit by a silver car while he was on the pavement and the woman got into the vehicle

The man suffered heavy bruising to his leg and was treated at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Headley Way

Council meeting

OXFORD The next Oxford City Council meeting has been scheduled for Monday August 4 at 6pm.

The Planning Review Committee will meet in the Old Library at the Town Hall on St Aldates

Family 'can grieve' after killer jailed

By Jack Johnson
jack.johnson@oxfordnewspapers.co.uk

THE family of two children who died in a house fire 17 years ago have said they can "now grieve properly" after a woman was convicted of their manslaughter last week.

Firaz Munshi, 36, of Manley Road, Oldham was sentenced to 13 years behind bars at Oxford Crown Court on Friday.

She was found guilty of the manslaughter of eight-year-old Anum Khan and her 15-year-old brother Majid.

She is the seventh person to be jailed for the arson attack after Alan Swanton, Thomas Liedl, Mohammed Nawaz Haq, Nawaz and Haroon Sharif, were all convicted of murder and Riaz Munshi of manslaughter.

Firaz Munshi was arrested in 1997 but released due to insufficient evidence.

She flew to Pakistan and could not be arrested when police discovered new evidence two days later.

Shenaz Akhtar, the sister of Anum and Majid, spoke outside of court on Friday, and said Munshi's sentencing signified "the happiest day" of the family's life.

"It has taken 17 years for Firaz Munshi to be brought to justice for the killings of Majid and Anum," she added.

"This is despite members of the Oxford community who have known the whereabouts of Firaz Munshi ever since she fled the UK.

"Finally after 17 years we can now grieve properly and visit Majid and Anum's grave together for the first time as a family and first time with our parents.

"This is the happiest day of our lives and we carried on fighting for Majid and Anum who will always remain deep within our hearts."

The Khan family home on Magdalen Road, Oxford was set alight with petrol on August 2nd 1997 with seven people asleep inside.

Six managed to escape, but nine year-old Anum died in the fire while Majid passed away at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Headley Way, after suffering severe burns.

In Autumn 2013, a member of the family contacted police and enquired about Munshi after her subsequent flight to Pakistan led to her avoiding arrest in 1997.

• Firaz Munshi

Police enquiries established Munshi had returned to the country from Pakistan in 2005 and the investigation was reopened.

Munshi was arrested and charged in October last year and was found guilty by a jury at Oxford Crown Court last Tuesday before being sentenced on Friday.

£4m deal to secure research

OXFORD University Hospitals NHS Trust has won a new £4million contract to support a health research centre in Summertown.

Health organisation Cochrane Collaboration's UK centre in Middle Way will now continue its links with the trust until March 2020.

The NHS Trust, who has hosted the facility since 2010, won the new deal following a tendering exercise.

Oxford's UK Cochrane Centre (UKCC) was established in 1992 as part of the Cochrane Collaboration.

They joined to produce and spread information to improve healthcare locally, nationally and internationally.

Martin Burton, honorary consultant otolaryngologist at the trust and director of the UK centre said: "We are delighted that the UKCC will continue its association with the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust.

"This decision provides continuity, enables us to strengthen our existing relationships and concentrate on what we do best."

Prof Dame Sally Davies, chief medical officer and scientific adviser at the Department of Health added: "These new awards are important because of the role systematic reviews play in the health research landscape."

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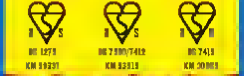

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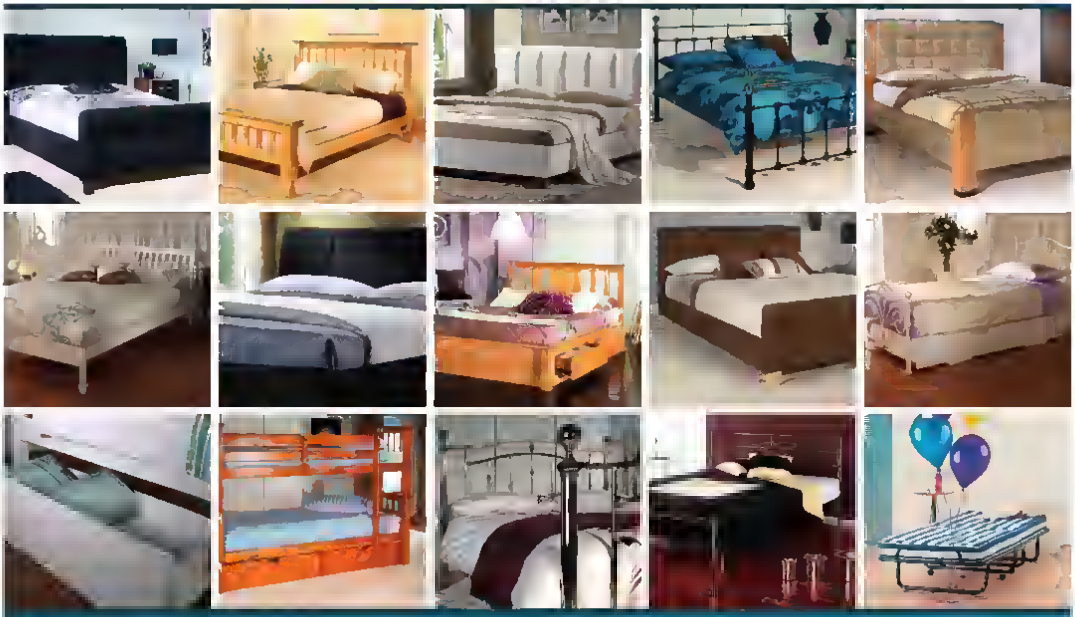

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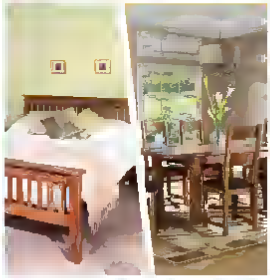

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Jail for man with hidden stun gun

A BLACKTHORN man who was caught with a stun gun disguised as an iPhone has been sentenced to three years in prison.

Marcel Cross of Chapel Close pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm at Oxford Crown Court on July 21.

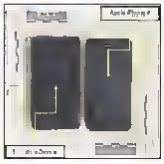
It relates to an incident on January 6, when police got reports Cross was in possession of the stun gun.

He was then arrested and charged on March 18.

Investigating officer PC Joe Stafford said: "There can only be one reason for disguising an item like this and that is to allow a person to carry it without detection.

"The seriousness of this was reflected in the sentence passed at court. It should act as a deterrent to others."

• (Left) Marcel Cross and (below) the stun gun



Joining forces for the Memory Walk

By Dan Church
news@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

TWO women from Chipping Norton are urging people to sign up to Oxford's first big Alzheimer's Society Memory Walk, after experiencing personal ordeals within their family.

Deborah Rose, 50, joined up with Oxford's roller derby team, Wheels of Gory in Oxford's University Parks on Tuesday to help promote the event.

She is encouraging people to sign up along with her friend Tracey Davies, 41, from Chipping Norton.

The walk, which is due to take place on Sunday, September 14, sees participants take on a 2km or 10km route.

And it aims to raise vital funds to improve the lives of people living with dementia.

Deborah said: "I am walking for my wonderful Dad, Roy Watson, who was diagnosed with dementia five years ago.

"Dad was always joking and people always commented on his quick witted, dry sense of humour.

"My best friend Tracey's mum has also been diagnosed with dementia and we try to support one another.

Our whole lives have been turned upside down but now we want to do something positive and take part in Memory Walk with our friends and family."

Members of the Wheels of Gory team are volunteering their services for the walk, including Amy Jones, 33, from Marston.

• (From left) Tracey Davies, Adrian Wilhams, Debbie Rose and Amy Jones prepare for the Memory Walk (Picture by David Fleming)

She said: "Several of our members have family directly affected by this terrible disease and it was something we all felt we wanted to support as much as we could.

"As a team we wanted to give our time to marshal the Memory Walk to help the Alzheimer's Society run a great event by raising money and awareness for their charity."

The Wheels of Gory team selected the Alzheimer's Society as their charity of the year after members of the squad experienced the impact of the brain disease within their own families.

Adrian Wilhams, community fundraiser for Alzheimer's Society added: "You can sign up your whole family and even bring the dog along if you like."

News Bites

Blaze at farm

NORTH WESTON: Fire services dealt with a farm blaze at North Weston on July 21 which affected 20 tonnes of manure machinery and hay.

Crews were called to Abbey Farm at around 5.20pm and had to control the fire overnight until it was extinguished completely.

Cards stolen

OXFORD: A man in his 70s has been defrauded of his bank cards after being contacted by a man claiming to be from the 'fraud squad' last Tuesday.

At around 7.30pm the victim was instructed by the man to phone his bank before his cards were collected by another man claiming to be a courier.

The cards were then used to withdraw a quantity of cash.

Anyone with information is asked to call 101.

Shop success

OXON: British Heart Foundation shops in Oxfordshire have raised £457,000 over the past year, the charity has announced.

The money has been used to fund 124 defibrillators, nine healthcare professionals and two heart support groups in the area.

Margaret Richardson, BHF area manager, said: "We're truly overwhelmed with the ongoing generosity of the local community in Oxfordshire."

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Big plans for Oxford Station

PLANS to rebuild Oxford Station as part of a major £75million development were unveiled last Thursday.

The masterplan for the station off Botley Road outlined plans to increase the number of platforms to five – from three – for a rise in passenger numbers over the next 30 years.

A new station building would be built over the railway lines which would be connected to a bus station and multi-storey car park on the other side of Botley Road by a footbridge.

The development is part of a joint project by Oxford City Council, Oxfordshire County Council and Network Rail, in conjunction with First Great Western and the Department for Transport.

By Adam Flinn
adam.flinn@nqnewspapers.co.uk

Simon Maple, project sponsor at Network Rail, said: "Oxford's a growing city in terms of the number of people who will be using the railway.

"There are going to be new services running into Oxford, increasing numbers of trains, better trains, and it's going to provide better rail opportunities.

"Obviously you can't do this volume of work without causing some disruption, but we'd look to minimise the amount of delays."

Ian Hudspeth, leader of Oxfordshire County Council, said: "I think it's very exciting, because having that iconic gateway station coming into Oxford is really something we've got to look forward to and welcome.

"It's not just about creating additional passenger space, it's about creating somewhere that you can really say 'wow, this is Oxford'."

The proposed development to Oxford Station comes after plans to transform Frideswide Square were approved and an application to develop the Westgate Shopping Centre was announced in the past month.

Bob Price, leader of Oxford City Council, is hopeful that all the development work in west Oxford will not cause excessive disruption.

He said: "Luckily they won't come in time.

"Frideswide Square is going to be next year and this development won't start until 2017, so basically there will be quite a gap between the two.

"The work for the Westgate Centre will be starting in 2015, running until 2017, so there shouldn't be too much disruption.

The west end of the city will be completely transformed, and that does make for a very exciting prospect in the city."

Those involved in the project are now looking to secure funding, which is expected to cost around £75m.

Mike Hogg, projects and planning director at First Great Western, said: "It's a lot of money to be found.

"But it has to happen, something has to happen. Oxford Station is unsustainable for the amount of passengers it's got today."

A public exhibition of the station plans is being held at the Westgate Centre tomorrow and Saturday.

• *(From left) Mike Hogg, David Sexton from the Department for Transport, Simon Maple, Ian Hudspeth and Bob Price at Oxford Station.*

Oxford Station timeline

1844 First Oxford Station opens at Western Road Grandpont

1850 Oxford and Rugby Railway line opens as far as Banbury

1851 Separate station built at Rewley Road – all what is now the Said Business School in Frideswide Square

1852 Grandpont station closed to passenger services, new site opened in Park End Street

1872 Grandpont station closed completely

1951 Rewley Road station closed to passengers

1971 Oxford Station substantially rebuilt

1990 Main building and foot bridge built

1999 Rewley Road station dismantled

2014 Redevelopment plans for Oxford Station announced

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Work of US playwright comes to life at Old Fire Station

• Catrin Aaron practising her first monologue The Fever for the show

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A traveller's monologue

A MONOLOGUE about a traveller who considers the impact of her life on the world while ill with fever is performed at the Old Fire Station today and tomorrow.

By Adam Flinn
aflinn@oxfordmail.co.uk

The Fever is based on the award winning play by American author and playwright Wallace Shawn, and confronts questions concerning morality and equality.

The traveller is struck with fever while visiting a third world country, and as it takes hold she speaks aloud about if she is the moral person she believes herself to be.

The play does tackle strong issues but director Alice Malin insists it doesn't force the message across.

"Having this fever the traveller has to recalibrate everything she thinks about the world and her place in it," said Alice.

"But having said that it's very funny and it doesn't beat you over the head with a message of 'we must all change it's 'we have a problem, what can we do?'

"I was interested in doing something that looked at the fact that our world is very unequal which is really interesting to me."

The monologue is performed by Catrin Aaron, who said this is the first play of this type she has done before.

"It's been intense," Catrin said. "It's an hour and half and is challenging, in an American accent as well.

"I've never done anything where the emphasis is solely on yourself where the responsibility is on your shoulders to entertain an audience while you tell the story."

Doors open for today's and tomorrow's shows at 7pm which start at 7.30pm.

For tickets, go to oldfirestation.org.uk or call 01865 263980.

• Catrin Aaron takes on her first monologue in The Fever at the Old Fire Station tonight and tomorrow

Folk concerts

OXFORDSHIRE BASED folk group Fairport Convention return to Banbury's Mill Arts Centre on Monday and Tuesday in preparation for the upcoming Cropredy Festival.

The two concerts come before their 35th annual festival at Cropredy which gets underway in the North Oxfordshire village next Thursday.

Both of the Banbury shows start at 7.30pm, and more details can be found at themillartscentre.co.uk.

Beer festival

THE third annual beer and cider festival at Cogges Manor Farm near Witney gets underway tomorrow and Saturday.

Over 40 varieties of beer and cider from local breweries will be on offer as well as live music from The Original Rabbit Pool Spasm Band and Family Machine.

Both nights start from 6.30pm.

Backstage tour

OXFORD'S New Theatre is hosting a backstage tour on Saturday, to give theatre goers the chance to step behind the scenes.

For £8 visitors are shown backstage areas including the infamous haunted dressing room, sub stage revolve, and the stage itself.

It starts at 10.30am.

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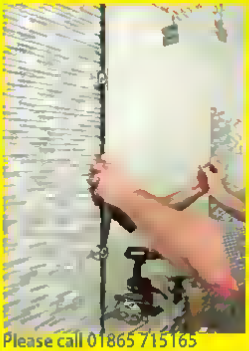

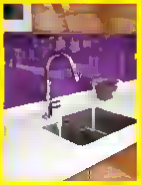

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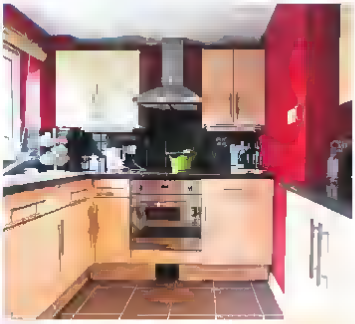

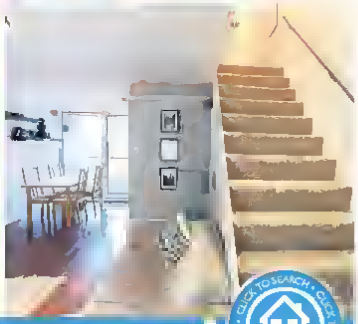

Two double bedroom maisonette with extensive improvements located within easy walking distance to Cowley Centre (photo: of black sheep)

More details on page 8 ➔

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THREE BEDROOM FAMILY HOME located in Headington. This traditional layout with modern interior offers accommodation of: Entrance hall, lounge/diner, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, downstairs cloakroom, garage, and front and rear gardens. Viewing is a must. EPC Rating D

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OXFORD £1,300

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OXFORD £1,500

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Florence Park £320,000

Located in the highly sought-after area of Oxford, this EXTENDED SEMI-DETACHED house is offered to the market with NO ONWARD CHAIN. Internal viewing comes highly recommended. EPC E

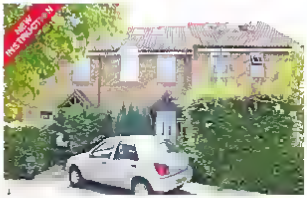
Off Watlington Rd £320,000

This EXTENDED link DETACHED property offers SPACIOUS FAMILY ACCOMMODATION, located in a popular RESIDENTIAL close in Oxford, including 3 bedrooms and a garage. EPC C

Rose Hill £250,000

Situated on a LARGER THAN AVERAGE PLOT, having gardens to the front, side and rear of the property. THREE BEDROOMS plus a SPACIOUS lounge/dining room and fitted kitchen. EPC awaited

Greater Leys £240,000



This WELL PRESENTED, experti[illegible] TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS plus a usable DOUBLE BEDROOM IN THE LOFT SPACE accessed via spiral staircase from the landing. EPC awaited

Blackbird Leys £230,000

INVESTMENT PURCHASER ONLY. Property being sold with sitting tenant. Located OFF SANDY LANE in Blackbird Leys. EPC awaited

Horspath £100,000

Offered for the market with NO ONWARD CHAIN is this EXTENDED detached family home offering stunning views across Oxford countryside. Internal inspection comes highly recommended. EPC exempt

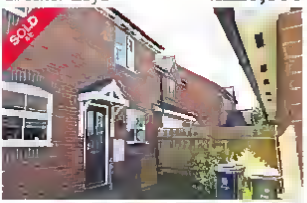
Littlemore £225,000

A modern detached two bedroom BUNGALOW located in a quiet cul-de-sac offering the NHBC guarantee. With conservatory, rear garden, off street parking. EPC Rating E

Rose Hill £220,000

3 BED HOUSE available which has been significantly updated to Bedrooms, 3 Reception, Kitchen, Utility, Bathroom, Separate WC, Parking, Rear Garden. EPC awaited

Greater Leys £225,000



Offered with NO ONWARD CHAIN is this WELL PRESENTED five bedroom home with EN SUITE SHOWER ROOM situated in this popular area of Greater Leys. EPC C

01865 748 448 60 Between Towns Road, Oxford, OX4 3LR
cowley@connells.co.uk

the Property Ombudsman OFT

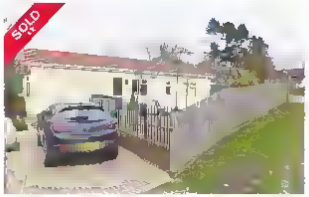
Headington

Connells

East Field Close £450,000

An attractive detached property offering great access to the ring road, local hospitals & bus routes. Energy Rating: D

Bayswater Farm Road £155,000



The property offers lounge, diner, kitchen, two bedrooms and a family bathroom. The property offers surrounding gardens with shared drive & parking on a drive. Energy Rating: Exempt

Masons Road £240,000

Well proportioned two bedroom flat within the Oxford ring road. The property offers, lounge/diner, kitchen, bedroom one & two and bathroom. Energy Rating: D

Brome Place £170,000

Well presented one bedroom flat with lounge/diner, kitchen, bedroom, bathroom and balcony room. The property would be ideal as a starter home or an investment. Energy Rating: C

Collinwood Road £335,000

The bedroom classic property in need of some modernisation and is set back from the road & a secure kitchen. On the first floor we have three double bedrooms & a family bathroom. Energy Rating: D

Oxford £475,000

A unique opportunity to purchase a substantial home in a prime location offering period features and potential to convert the loft (subject to planning) to mirror neighbouring properties. Energy Rating: G

Headley Way £435,000

Located within walking distance of the John Radcliffe hospital. This property has an HMO license for four people and would be ideal for a family and investors alike. Energy Rating: D

Littleworth Park £165,000

The Fellstone offers two double bedrooms with an open plan lounge/diner, kitchen, family bathroom, separate garage, off road parking and large rear garden. Energy Rating: Exempt

Merewood Avenue £470,000

Well presented semi detached property with loft conversion, attached garage and side access. No onward chain. Energy Rating: D

Cranley Road £90,000

DEVELOPMENT PLOT. Planning approval for a one bedroom house with parking to the side of a three bedroom semi detached property. Viewing advised and further plans available in branch.

Broad Oak £275,000

Well presented family home located in a quiet cul-de-sac next to Magdalen Wood. Ideal for first time buyers and people looking for a property to move into with no renovation. Energy Rating: D

Bulan Road £320,000

Investment Opportunity. Vacant with tenants in situ until July. The property has an HMO for 4 people, is located in a prime location for lettings, close to the Headington hospitals & Brookes University

01865 763501 137 London Road Headington OX3 9HZ
headington@connells.co.uk

The Property Ombudsman OFT

Headington

Connells

Aysgarth Road £400,000

A substantial detached three bedroom bungalow well positioned within the village of Yarnton. Energy Rating: D

Old Road £450,000

Detached family home. Spacious accommodation over two levels with room to extend (subject to planning). Located within walking distance of the Nuffield Hospital. Energy Rating: F

Windmill Road £480,000

Victorian semi detached property in Central Headington with good public transport links and access to Nuffield and Churchill hospital. Energy Rating: E

Nuffield Road £250,000

Ground floor one bedroom flat with private entrance. Situated at the end of a no through road. Good bus links and great access to the Churchill and Nuffield hospitals. Energy Rating: C

Ambleside Drive £300,000

REFURBISHMENT OPPORTUNITY. Located within walking distance of the John Radcliffe hospital. This property would be ideal for both a family and investors alike. Energy Rating: D

Dorchester Close £325,000

Spacious double room apartment situated in a highly desirable gated development. The property offers generous accommodation over the first floor, communal entrance and allocated parking.

New Cross Road £650,000

Substantial family home with a Quarry. Planning approved to convert the existing home into two dwellings over three storeys.

Oxford £325,000

Investment Opportunity. A property with a HMO license located within walking distance of local hospitals. Offered with no onward chain

Atkinson Close £280,000

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY! Offering good rental potential, great links to major routes, local hospitals & the city. Energy Rating: D

Merewood Avenue £425,000

Situated in Sandhills this property is deceptively large and extended semi detached property ideal for larger families and investors alike. Offered with no onward chain or tenants in situ. Energy Rating: D

North Way £275,000

Well presented family home offering good access to the A40. The property consists of lounge, kitchen/dining, utility & cloakroom, three bedrooms, family bathroom & front & rear gardens. Energy Rating: D

Cranley Road £240,000

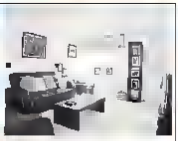
Well presented family home, offered with no chain

01865 763501 137a London Road Headington OX3 9HZ
headington@connells.co.uk

The Property Ombudsman OFT

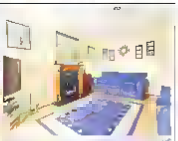
allen & harris

for details of all our instructions call us now on Rosehill 01865 711441
2 Rose Hill, Oxford - oxford@sequencehome.co.uk



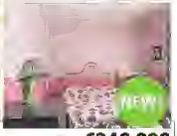
Janaway
Sandford On Thames
£325,000

Th s beautifully presented three bedroom semi-detached property has been superbly renovated throughout. Offering spacious accommodation it benefits from a recently re-fitted kitchen, bathroom and shaker room. The property has also been re-decorated throughout.



Jana Way
Sandford-On-Thames
£350,000

Spacious and well presented throughout, this semi-detached property has been superbly extended to create this well proportioned four bedroom family home. Offering accommodation over three floors, garage, off street parking and a quiet village location.

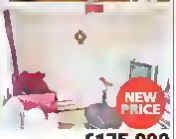


Danvers Road
Oxford
£240,000

A three bedroom semi detached house in Rose Hill. Downstairs there is a Living Room/Dining Room, Kitchen and Two Store Rooms. Upstairs are Three Bedrooms and a Bathroom with separate W.C.

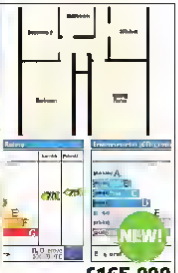
Columbine Gardens
Oxford
£240,000

Allen and Harris are delighted to offer to the market this two bedroom semi detached property situated in the quiet cul-de-sac of Greate Leys. The property has been skillfully extended to the rear offering flexible reception space and is well presented throughout.



Giles Road
Littlemore
£175,000

This Two Bedroom Ground Floor Maisonette with Driveway Parking situated in Littlemore is being sold with No Onward Chain and would make both an ideal investment or First Time Purchase. Call the office on 01865 711441 to arrange a viewing.



Alice Smiths Square
Littlemore
£165,000

A ground floor two bedroom apartment situated in Littlemore, the property benefits from gas central heating and double glazing throughout and also offers buyers a garden and driveway parking. NO ONWARD CHAIN

WHATS IT WORTH....????

Curious to know what your property is worth..?
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129-131 London Road, Headington - headington@sequencehome.co.uk

Wheatley
Oxford **£400,000**

OPEN HOUSE EVENT SAT 19th JULY FROM MIDDAY CALL 01865 767414 FOR AN EARLY BOOKING AS HIGH DEMAND EXPECTED A charming and stylish grade two listed cottage, brimming with character and lovely features, both old world and contemporary. Situated in the popular village of Wheatley.

3
Oxford **£525,000**

OPEN HOUSE EVENT-SATURDAY AUGUST 2ND FROM 3PM, call to book as high demand expected Situated in the highly prized location, near to Hospitals, overlooking the nature reserve & in routes from Central Headington. An extended Bay Fronted semi detached property, Four Beds, Two Receptions, Two Baths

London Road
Wheatley **£325,000**

A Detached Three Bedroom Bungalow, situated in a private road in the Village of Wheatley. The property requires refurbishment and has the potential to extend on what is already a good sized footprint (subject to the necessary planning constraints).

479
Oxford **£350,000**

OPEN HOUSE-9TH AUGUST FROM 12 MIDDAY CALL EARLY TO BOOK AS HIGH DEMAND ANTICIPATED! Situated in the ever desirable area of MARSTON with its excellent access to the City Centre and great schooling, this THREE BEDROOM 1930's semi detached property is in need with no onward cha n.

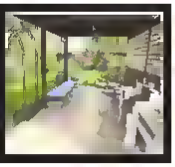
30
OXFORD **£335,000**

Situated in the popular area of Risinghurst which offers convenient links to London & Oxford and good primary & secondary schools. The well presented accommodation comprises: Hall Lounge/ Dining Room, Kitchen, Conservatory, WC, Three Bedrooms and Bathroom Garage Store Room and Generous Gardens.

32
Oxford **£625,000**

This modern four bedroom detached property has accommodation spread over two floors comprising: Entrance Lobby, Three Reception Rooms, Cloakroom, Kitchen and Utility room, Four Bedrooms and Two Bathrooms, Double Garage and Driveway Of particular note are the stunning rear gardens.

WE WANT YOUR PROPERTY...!!!
WE HAVE A HUGE AMOUNT OF BUYERS LOOKING FOR PROPERTY IN HEADINGTON.
SO FOR A FREE MARKET APPRAISAL PLEASE CALL 01865 711441



PROPERTY WEEKLY

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distribution@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Accounts
01235 516910
accounts@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Production
01235 516934
studio@taylornewspapers.co.uk

Improved property in Pulker Close

Offered to the market with no onward chain is this superb two double bedroom maisonette

Set in an exclusive development within walking distance to Cowley centre the property has been extensively improved by the current owner

To view this property please contact Connells on 01865 746 446 or email cowley@connells.co.uk

Top honours for letting agent

College and County have been voted the best single office letting agent in the UK!

The prestigious Sunday Times

Awards are the foremost awards within the Lettings industry

This year College and County entered five industry specific awards best single office best student lettings best social media best customer service and best innovation

All applications are also taken into consideration to find the best single office in the regions and the UK.

Over 500 letting agents throughout the UK entered the awards

And there was success for College and County who won the following awards

- Best Single Office UK Gold
- Best Single Office South East Gold
- Best Student Lettings Bronze
- Best Social Media Bronze

Judges praised the agency saying that "the ethos of College & County is One office One team One Ethical Mission

"They use this ideal as the foundation for every activity

"The director views the staff as part of his customer base and treats them accordingly

"There is a strong commitment to honesty and integrity and the team feels valued due to the heavy investment in its development, both in terms of training and also financial reward

"The non-commissioned based pay structure ensures every one works to the same goals as they all profit share

"Clever and considered use of social media and online has resulted in high levels of new business

"This has also increased retention rates of landlords and repeat tenants as they are kept informed of new developments and initiatives"

If you own a property and want to experience a very golden

letting service, call to arrange a rental valuation today with College and County

Call 01865 722722 for more information quoting 'Golden lettings OPW'

Homes selling fast at Nalder Fields site

Just two months after the launch of Bewley Homes exclusive Nalder Fields development in Oxfordshire eager buyers have snapped up a quarter of the properties

The three four and five-bedroom homes in the pretty village of East Challow have been very well received with 11 of the 43 houses launched in May already sold and the first completions taking place this month

Neil Simpson sales and marketing director of Bewley Homes said he is delighted with the response to Nalder Fields and is looking forward to welcoming the first residents to their new homes this month

He said "We knew the fantastic location and attractive well thought out design of the homes at Nalder Fields would prove popular with families but didn't anticipate quite how quickly they'd be snapped up

"As a result we'd encourage anyone thinking of moving to come and see our stunning show home as soon as possible as I have no doubt the remaining properties won't be available for too much longer"

Located on land that was home to the Nalder & Nalder factory where agricultural and brewing equipment was made for more than 100 years from 1665 Nalder Fields is a joint venture between Bewley Homes and John Putt owner of the Nalder Estate

Generations of local families have worked on the site throughout its 150-year history which also saw it used to make motor components for MG, Toyota, and other brands

Providing a new chapter in the site's rich history this development will consist of just 70 semi and detached homes once completed

Most will offer either double or single garages and generous garden space and are priced from £250 000 to £515 000

The marketing suite is open Thursday to Monday from 10am to 5pm To find out more call 07741 311266 email nalderfields@bewley.co.uk or contact Green & Co on 01235 763 562

perrybishopleaders.com

PERRY BISHOP & LEADERS
Connecting people with property

Watchfield £995 pcm
Newly built spacious 3 bedroom family home offers a light and airy feel with a modern finish. Features open plan kitchen, enclosed rear garden, family bathroom, garage and parking. EPC Rating B

St[illegible] £[illegible] pcm
4 pen[illegible] conse[illegible] EPC Rating D

Fa[illegible]gdon £[illegible] pcm
[illegible] and garden and [illegible] EPC Rating F

Shrivenham £875 pcm
Modern 3 bedroom maisonette with master en suite and good access to the A420. EPC Rating B

Uffington £650 pcm
2 bedroom cottage redecorated with newly-fitted kitchen and open fire. EPC Rating TBC

Stanford In The Vale £850 pcm
A lovely 2 bedroom house offering off road parking and large enclosed rear garden. EPC Rating F

Watch[illegible] £[illegible] pcm
Spacious 3 bedroom family home with a traffic free frontage. EPC Rating E

Faringdon £775 pcm
2 bedroom coach house with open plan living space, modern kitchen and garage. EPC Rating B

Fa[illegible]gdon £[illegible] pcm
2 bedroom house beneath the folly tower with rear garden and detached garage. EPC Rating C

Faringdon £675 pcm
2 bedroom mid terrace house with allocated parking and enclosed rear garden. EPC Rating D

Faringdon £650 pcm
2 bedroom house specially designed for over 55 years old. EPC Rating C

Faringdon £650 pcm
Spacious executive style 2 bedroom apartment located in the heart of the town. EPC Rating C

H[illegible]ghworth £595 pcm
1 bedroom house with allocated parking and beautiful communal gardens. EPC Rating D

Faringdon 01367 24[illegible]3 | 17-18 Market Place, Faringdon, SN7 7HP | @PerryBishop[illegible]

All rents quoted exclude other charges or fees which may be payable – for more information please contact your local branch or visit the current page on www.perrybishopleaders.com

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We'll bring the bubbles!

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*terms and conditions apply

For further details call Gavin West at
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Summertown Office

Butler Sherborn offer a local and serious alternative to the National Agency brands in the City of Oxford. With a sophisticated destination office in Summertown, we are well positioned to set your property apart from standard agency marketing. For a refreshing, more focused approach to the sale or letting of your property, please feel free to come and see us or call us at any time.

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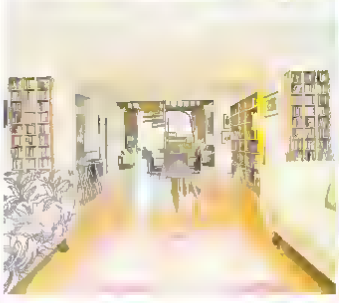

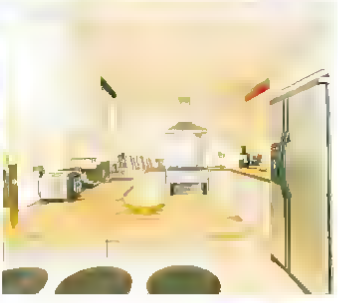

Stylish and atmospheric hideaway

DRY SANDFORD Detached stone and red brick period barn set in private 0.22 acre gardens. Contemporary kitchen. 4 Beds, 3 Baths. large annexe. The main barn features a striking 'through' reception room with steel staircase. Double garage block. EPC B (TOTAL FLOOR AREA c 2730 sq ft)

Guide Price £1,025,000

Contact Gavin West - 01865 510000 - gavin@butlersherborn.co.uk

• Cirencester 01285 883740 • Burford 01993 822325 • Stow-on-the-Wold 01451 830731
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Butler Sherborn

Vale and Downland

www.butlersherborn.co.uk

An historic catholic village residence of elegant proportions

GROVE This fabulous village residence and former farmhouse (attached) largely rebuilt in 1684 was the home of Airey Neave MP and famously the first man to escape from Colditz Castle in WW2. 6 Beds 3 Baths 3 Recp Annexe Beautful Gardens Swimming Pool Dble Ggc Gas CH

Guide Price £1,200,000

Contact Cuan Ryan - 01235 772299 - cuan@butlersherborn.co.uk

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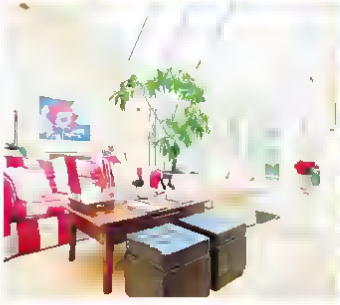

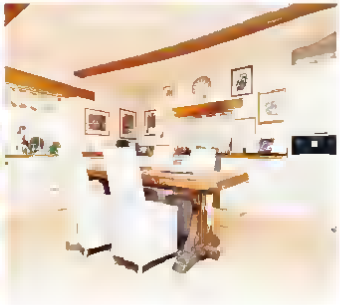

One of the county s finest farm houses

LITTLEWORTH Set in private gated 5 3 acre grounds a very special period farm house of wonderful classical proportions The house has character and style in abundance 5 receps including a wonderful lifestyle kitchen opening in to an orangery 6 beds 3 baths Garage block. EPC E (TOTAL FLOOR AREA c 4349 sq ft)

Guide Price £1,695,000

Contact Gavin West - 01865 510000 - gavin@butlersherborn co uk

• Cirencester 01285 883740 • Burford 01993 822325 • Stow-on-the-Wold 01451 830731
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Visit OxfordMireGuard.co.uk
full guide of what to see and do in Oxfordshire

Poetry insight

TOURING poets and writers The New Libertines showcase their work at Oxford's Old Fire Station tomorrow

It Only Hurts The First Time sees the writers discuss the human experience and are supported by indie band Superhand

Doors open at 6.15pm. For tickets go to oldfirestation.org.uk

Dancing days

A THREE DAY dance workshop for children aged five to seven years old runs from Monday to Wednesday at the Chipping Norton Theatre

Youngsters can try their hand at dances including jazz, contemporary and tap as they work on their own choreography

Each day runs from 10.15am to 1pm. Go to chippingnortontheatre.co.uk for more information.

Youth festival

YOUTH festival MESH comes to an end at Pegasus Theatre in Oxford tomorrow with a performance of Beowulf and Grendel

More than 150 young people from across the globe have been involved in the festival since it began last Wednesday, staging productions, debates and dances

For more information go to pegasustheatre.org.uk

Shakespeare on show

A NEW adaptation of Shakespeare's classic play A Midsummer Night's Dream is being performed in Oxford until Sunday.

By Adam Flinn
adam@nuy.newsquest.co.uk

Taking place at the Said Business School's rooftop amphitheatre, the play portrays the events surrounding the marriage of Duke of Athens Theseus and Queen of the Amazons, Hippolyta.

The production is set in the woodland realm of Farryland.

It interconnects with the storyline of the fairy king and queen Oberon and Titania, who are estranged.

The show also follows the story of four young lovers, and it is this aspect that production group Enchanted Players Theatre Company wanted to focus on in their performance.

"We are taking on a different approach to it," said Victoria Ruskin, acting coach with the company.

"Whereas other performances put the effort into the king and queen, we really wanted to see it from a different angle and the funny love triangle that goes on in our approach to it.

"We're using masks for all of the fairy realm and the costumes are handmade."

It is being performed at the business school's amphitheatre at its site in Frideswide Square where the company have previously put on shows including Much Ado About Nothing.

"The Said have got a lovely rooftop amphitheatre and it's really nice," Victoria added.

"The sun sets behind it and it's very atmospheric.

"It really works well with the fairy theme and the story."

Performances start at 7.30pm.

For more details about the show and the theatre company go to enchanted players.co.uk.

• Scenes from A Midsummer Night's Dream, performed in Oxford every day this week until Sunday

Advertorial

5 Course Dinner and Entertainment
£29.95
Booking information
218 Broadway Didcot OX11 8RS
Tel: 01235 510993 / 510627
Email: angel.falls@hotmail.com

Advertorial

FunTech Residential Camp at Tonbridge School, Kent

FUNTECH are now offering their ground breaking courses residentially at Tonbridge School in Kent.

So, for those of us who cannot make it to one of FunTech's day centres, take a look at this option for the w/c 17th August. There are four courses on offer: Java Coder – this will open the doors to the worlds of online game and application programming; Minecraft Redstone – a course that combines computing with electronics and maths; FunTyper – fun filled skills based touch typing tuition; and Lego NXT Robotz – an introduction to programming using the tactile medium of Lego. But places are limited so do not delay booking for too long. And on top of the great courses, the social and lifestyle experience will be invigorating too. Not only will youngsters meet others from Europe and other continents, but they will have use of the facilities of one of the most spectacular schools in the country. Overall this will be an unparalleled experience for any child.

To find out more, take a look at the website www.funtechsummercamps.com/residential-camps or give FunTech a call on 01628 521210.

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Sudoku

Place a number be tween 1 and 9 in each empty cell so that each 3x3 block, column and full row includes each of the numbers from 1 to 9 only once. EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

	2		9	1		8	7	
8					3	1		
	4				2	9		5
1	8			3		2		
7			2		9			3
		4		7			9	8
3		2	8				8	
		5	8					9
	8	8		5	1		4	

	8						1	
	3	7		8		2	5	
		5	1		8	4		
			4		3			
	1						3	
			2		8			
		8	3		9	5		
	9	3		4		8	6	
	2						9	

9	4		8					
	1			4				
	3	2						
6		4	1			5		
3			9		8			2
		9			3	7		6
						3	1	
				7			8	
					5		9	7

Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

1 Purchased (6)
7 Set free (7)
8 Tile (7)
9 Circles (5)
10 Characteristic (9)
12 Relative (3)
13 Bend (4)
15 Member of legislative group (7)
17 Ocean movement (4)
19 Snare (3)
21 Covered with swellings (9)
22 Make merry (5)
23 Tell (7)
24 Trips (7)
25 Pamper (6)

Quick Clues Down

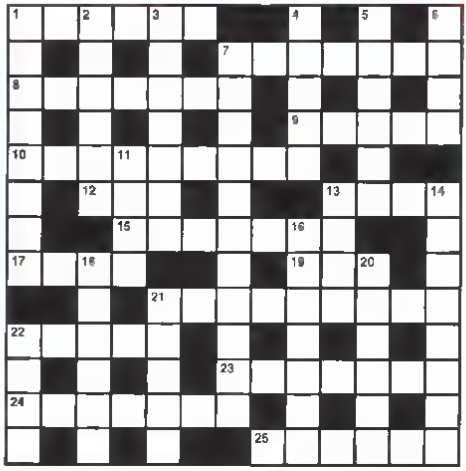
1 Cellar (8)
2 Alliances (6)
3 Sanitary science (7)
4 Frighten (5)
5 Drive (6)
6 Curves (4)
7 Sources (11)
11 Pry (4)
13 Large plant (4)
14 Most prepared (8)
16 Great Lake (7)
18 Consecrate (6)
20 Entertains (6)
21 Plain-spoken (5)
22 Cowering (4)

Cryptic Clues Across

1 Give joy by putting six in reckless surroundings (6)
7 The ultimate from the river by the sound of it (7)
8 Respects the dirt in the commercials? (7)
9 Get to the stretch of water (5)
10 Care for the weather? At first, it's waiting (9)
12 Bend back a source of heat (3)
13 Seasonal plant (4)
15 Pause about jealousy (7)
17 Devours most of the animal foods (4)
19 Or holding a blade (3)
21 Carrying out the duties of a hangman (9)
22 Overlay the disguise (5)
23 Working to get one fish? (7)
24 Or is Sue otherwise solemn? (7)
25 Produces fry degrees? (6)

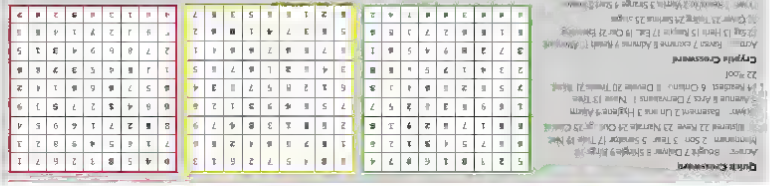
Cryptic Clues Down

1 Concerning the present age, can it be interesting to peruse? (8)
2 Leaves out five at the beginning, and is sack (6)
3 Unusual to wander under the road (7)
4 Begin to find a loose woman below the initial surface (5)
5 Tell how it could connect? (6)
6 Noah's son could be in such a trap (4)
7 Recent maps to the south show diffs (11)
11 Organs in the cornfields (4)
13 High temperature in the Atlantic (4)
14 Misses the luggage? (8)
16 Younger who might solicit a racing man to come inside (7)
18 The vet ran out to the hotel (6)
20 I'd be in the ring on horseback (6)
21 Sin or make a mistake (5)
22 Have all the actors a squint? (4)



Scribble space

This week's solutions



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3 Aug 2014
Orchard Centre Didcot
DIDCOT SUNDAY MARKET
SUMMER FAMILY PICNIC/ DXDN VEG CYCLE

16 Aug 2014, 7.45 pm
Music at the Barn, Witney
STUANT RYAN LIVE CONCENT
Hagg dad sa ame ot the UK a finest fingerstyle guitar sts. Stuart Ryan (Pagan Records) has been a professional career in 2002 when he was awarded Guitar of Magazine's Acoustic Guitarist of the Year. He jointly came second in the album of Martin Taylor. MBE (one of the world's leading jazz guitarists, who gave Stuart valuable encouragement and asked him to perform at his Kilkenny Guitar Festival sharing the stage with many of the world's greatest acoustic guitarists, including Martin Taylor, MBE, Eric Roche, Thomas Leeb and Jon Gomm. Guitarist whom he has played around as friends. Several of Stuart's previous albums have been gone on to become prominent players themselves such as Youtube's sensation Mike Dawes and Account Guitarist of the Year 2011 Will McNicol. Stuart's music has also landed up in some unlikely places - Lamb's medallist/songwriter Lou Rhodes was so impressed with Stuart's study pieces that she asked one of them to be back Sounds from Lambs 2011 album 5. *http://www.musicatthebarn.org/*

16 Aug 2014 3.30 pm-5.30 pm
Music at the Barn, Witney
AUGUST STUANT NYAN – GUITAR MASTERCLASS – ANHANGING FDN FINGER STYLE GUITAN
Stuart Ryan is regarded as one of the UK a nes finge sty e gn tar ists. He has written mount ass articles for guitar magazines and has taught many hundreds of students. Stuart's p evious a ndemic heave included You Tube sensation Mike Dawes and Account Guitar ist of the Yea 2011 Will McNi no. *http://www.musicatthebarn.org/*

21 Aug 2014, 8.00 pm
Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley
THE PANTALLDONS HISTORY DF BNITAIN
Ga ellopers 5pm
Mad e sod and cliff nppers yes It's the H sto y of Britain as you've never seen it before! Join the cr azed y and mixed Pantaloons Theatre Company for a stra ht ass race through the centu es in this delightfully inventive open-air show. This hysterical y hysterical show is packed with songs, sketches and a chase and a s u s bits for a ages. Ni sense, no sp ov dad es pa ase b ng your own s and n hair s or rings. Tickets are non e ch eable and the performance will go ahead except in severe weathe cond tions. *www.waterperrygardens.co.uk*

21 Aug 2014 -23 Aug 2014
Oxford Playhouse
CHARLIE AND LOLA'S EXTHEMELY NEW PLAY
Playtho inny and hig sil anpnpass this new p ay abon fnandship and adventu as is a treat to everyone. This mag ma mon pnppets (we reckon and mean it) based on the m nth oved books by Lannon Child and the eva popular BBC TV Series. *www.oxfordplayhouse.com*

25 Aug 2014, 10:00 am -12.30 pm
Didcot Town FC, Desmond Water Didcot, OX11 7AF
DIDCOT UNBAN NACE 2014
Rnn og o nstwek. Ins s un and ent ng event to tha Summer Bank Hol day. Is o ganised by Thames Valley Cr ant ening Clnb and s dedi to a ages and ab lit es. Jn es nh dren and runners ta . An onn eer ng ems does not to ow a set bouts (mated) you have to wat a ss of nheckpo nts and reg ste each one with the e ectronth ming nhip. The nhankjo nts may sh ong stress ndbyways, fish nel snatches n the areas of parkland r ayers around the Ladygrove lakes. The challenge s to den de what you think the quickest outs will be sitween the nhenkpo nts and then to find you own way along that route using a span ad onshe ng map. The event takes place on Bank Holiday Monday 25 August, st onnd the nhicets streets and park and of the Ladygrove estate. There will be several courses to choose from, ranging f om 1km for ch ldnn n s traffic free area, up to 7km tat nnpnons. Help will also be ava lable. Reg stration and packing will be at Didcot Town FC, Desmond Water OX11 7AF. Check out the flyer on n t website for more nin sn and entry fees. Just come along on the day between 10am and midday and we'll get you started. Just don't forget your sense of adventure! Please do sma l ne f you have any que stions. gen@aryt hron g.nk. *www.bvc.org.uk*

26 Aug 2014-30 Aug 2014
Oxford Playhouse
BLACK COFFEE
The Age ha Christie Theatre Co mpany returns with this classic Poirot thriller. The first play from the pen of the great Dame of cr me w t ng. *www.oxfordplayhouse.com*

23 Aug 2014-31 Aug 2014
Wallingford
BUNKFEST
A free a ccess community festival p oviding a nn qne family f endly ne ert to cel w th something for everyone, nolnding Mus n, Drama, Food & Trnda Sta s, Workshops and a Rea A e Pag Festival. *www.bunkfest.co.uk*

30 Aug 2014
The Wheatsheaf High St Oxford
GAPPY TDOTH INDUETRIES
20.45 Thema Are On Demands
21.30 Octagnesis
22.15 Tha K tas
www.wegotickets.com/event/279634

2 Sep 2014-13 Sep 2014
Oxford Playhouse
SECNET THEATNE
Th ongh out ten weeks five d fferent shows w be performed. We're keeping the titles and the authors a sen at creating a gann ne surprise and en nti gn ng nhance to d scover s emeth ng new. *www.oxfordplayhouse.com*

5 Sep 2014, 7.30 pm
Burton Taylor Studio
THE FLDDD
An ams t eur s perforne Superbard weaves s cryst l ng with r gonal music and m mat un to mmerse you in s drown ng world. *www.oxfordplayhouse.com*

7 Sep 2014
Orchard Centre Didcot
DIDCDT SUNDAY MARKET CHEESE & CHUTNEY

12 Sep 2014-21 Sep 2014
Burton Taylor Studio
WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU FIND A DINDSAUN
Everybody likes digging right? Maybe you use a spade or just your hands. Sand is earth t y everywhere, only you'd scover something. Maybe just maybe t s is also sauri Oxford Playhouse presents Oxford's very own pal ntsitin story m this twine-shaking be ly-aching show.
Times Tbnesus
Age gu de' ne d s 8
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

13 Sep 2014 7.45 pm
Music at the Barn, Witney
MATT MIDGLEY - LIVE CONCERT
Matt M dg ey is a Scottish sele- sconstn gn ter st singer and songwrite based in Oxfordstare. His s nnonal pennae ve guita sty e and alternative folk style creates an amazing y un que sound. Inspired w th inspi me nt ex calchy honks and strong Scottish vocals. Alth ngh ly supposedly 2013 st tour ng feat w th gigging and nolleberating with the likes of Mike Dewes and Thomas Leeb, Matt is currently working on new mater al which has yet be showcasing this Smmns. *http://www.musicatthebarn.org/*

14 Sep 2014-5 Oct 2014 10.00 am-5.30 pm
Sarah Wiseman Gallery
This exhibition is ning photography n

Fellowship Rory College Fanhaven Edgar and David Rhys Jones
www.wisegallery.com

20 Sep 2014
St Mary's Church, Wallingford
A VENY BNITISH MUNDEN
A talk by Lnny Wo ley. Chief Curator of Hoyle, Hanson Pictures and well known TV broadcaster on part of the ecstatic revisions of su most famous filmey resident, Agatha Christie.
www.wallingfordmuseum.org.uk

20 Sep 2014-21 Sep 2014
Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley Oxford, OX33 1JZ
MICHAELMAS DAISY WEEKEND
Vis on ge dans to esa nu temons he tsenaons border n at its fe emmaus grow s t bonds bank n o t h with Asters (Mnhealmas Da sies). *www.waterperrygardens.co.uk*

24 Sep 2014 7.30 pm
Burton Taylor Studio
WHEN WE EMBNACED
A play and nha ng ng show about two people. An hally ts about you n ten s about ave yone, but really t s about two people one of which may be you. Age guide mo 14+
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

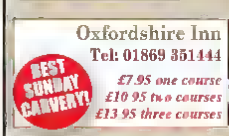
26 Sep 2014 7.30 pm
Burton Taylor Studio
I WISH I WAS LONELY
An in ensitive show about tentacle ality. A show in which the audience's cammit to saving her phones an The a wo ks poems, there will be stars and there will be conversation. Age gu de s no 14+
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

27 Sep 2014
Burton Taylor Studio
SHDE BABY
Times 11am & 2pm
A magical puppet show. A fantastic ca s ng song adventure with a baby who takes to the sea in the au th the aco mpa s shos
Age gn deline 2 o8
www.oxfordplayhouse.com

27 Sep 2014-28 Sep 2014 10.00 am -5.30 pm
Waterperry Gardens, Nr Wheatley, Oxford, OX33 1JZ
MICHAELMAS DAISY WEEKEND

1 Oct 2014, 7.30 pm
Burton Taylor Studio
THE FDNENSICS DF A FLAT (AHD DTHEN STDNIES)
Fannasca e s so as sbour-her beloved art tha e es stands n whit used to be a whist a will became and the people that have popn stand. It has b stand ng s nce beginn ng y s nt ex mination s ve after with a goal in sight: the tunn el bed. Karaoke. *www.oxfordplayhouse.com*

Oxfordshire Inn Hotel Heathfield
Heathfield Village
Stetchingdon
Oxford OX5 3DX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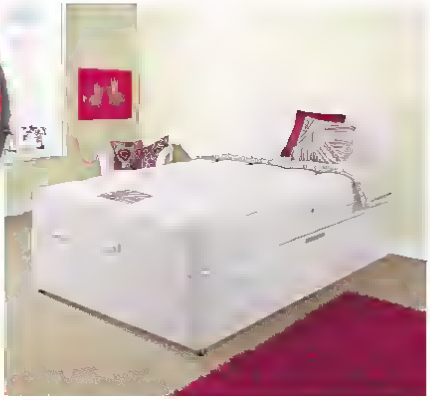

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Wednesday 27th August 10am-11am

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Wednesday 30th July 9am-10am

AQUAZONE CHILDREN'S INTENSIVE LESSONS:
Monday 11th August-Friday 15th August 10am-10 30am and 10 30am-11am
Tuesday 26th August-Friday 29th August 10am-10.30am and 10.30am-11am

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for ages 16+
Monday 18th August-Friday 22nd August
(pleasa speak to reception for more information)

CYCLING PROFICIENCY
Monday 28th July-Friday 1st August
10am-12pm
Monday 18th August-Friday 22nd August
10am-12pm
Includes an assessment on the Friday.

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Introducing Ford's first-ever electric car

• The Ford Focus Electric

IT'S taken a while, but Ford has finally joined the electric car party with its Focus Electric, which is now on sale in the UK.

With the exception of a new grille, front wing charging point and subtle badging, the Focus Electric shares the looks of Ford's familiar five-door hatchback, but under the skin uses a lithium ion battery pack and AC electric motor which is good for an 85mph top speed and a surprisingly sprightly 11 second sprint to 62mph.

The biggest limitation currently associated with electric vehicles (EVs) concerns a lack of useable range, but the Focus offers a claimed mileage of up to 100 miles on a full charge (depending on driving style and choice of route) aided by the powertrain's use of regenerative braking to capture up to 95 per cent of kinetic energy normally lost during the braking process.

Charging takes 10-11 hours from a standard three pin 240 volt/10 amp UK domestic socket, while a fast charger operating at 32 amps can achieve a full top up in three to four hours.

Due to the electric motor delivering its 250Nm of torque instantly the Focus Electric feels very strong off the mark and at lower speeds, but over 60mph the rate of speed increase slows considerably as the car gradually builds up to its restricted 85mph top speed.

Despite a significantly heavier kerb weight of 1,700kg, this Focus retains the dynamic appeal of conventionally powered versions, save for a touch less body control around corners.

In-car refinement however is a marked improvement over a combustion Focus. Like its EV rivals the Focus Electric's motor is smooth and refined and once underway all that disturbs the serenity is a whisper of wind noise and a modicum of road rumble.

Although cabin space is unaffected by the electric conversion, the battery occupies a significant chunk of the luggage area, which reduces everyday carrying capacity from 316 litres down to 237 litres.

Ford has made an effort by installing a two-tier load floor incorporating a hidden storage compartment.

The interior is virtually identical to any other Focus, apart from some unique EV instrumentation.

REVIEW: FORD FOCUS ELECTRIC

By **Philip Shoulder**

@writeanumber ng

VERDICT: The Focus stands out from the electric car crowd by looking largely identical to the regular combustion model on which it's based. That aside, Ford's first EV is a highly competent all-round product, being quick, quiet, comfortable and great to drive. A high sticker price of £28,580 (after £5k government contribution) is likely to be the only turn off for private buyers.

FACTS at a glance

Ford Focus Electric
Price: £28,580 (inc £5k grant)
Engine: 143bhp AC motor
Power: 23kwh lithium ion battery pack
Transmission: Single-speed automatic, front-wheel drive
0-62mph: 11.0 seconds
Top speed: 85mph
Range: 100 miles
CO2: 0g/km (tailpipe)
Equipment: DAB, sat nav

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johnsons

The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Mazda MX-5 range: Urban 25.4 (11.1) – 28.8 (9.8) Extra Urban 45.6 (6.2) – 50.4 (5.6) Combined 35.3 (8.0) – 39.8 (7.1). CO2 emissions (g/km) 188 – 167

The mpg figures quoted are sourced from official EU regulated test results and are obtained through laboratory testing. These are provided for comparability purposes only and may not reflect your actual driving results.

Retail sales are only subject to vehicle availability for vehicles registered between 01.07.14 and 30.09.14 at participating dealers. T&Cs apply. *0% finance available on the Mazda MX-5 models with no minimum deposit on Mazda Persona Contract Purchase. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (1) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle (subject to availability) (2) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (3) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition of the vehicle. Finance subject to status. 18s or over. Guarantor/indemnity may be required. Mazda Financial Services PLC, 1SR. Model shown, Mazda MX-5 Roadster Coupe 2.0 25th Anniversary Limited Edition OTR £22,695. OTR price includes VAT, number plates, first year 12 months road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year/60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European Roadside Assistance. †Test drives subject to application, status and availability. Details correct at time of going to print. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless specified. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Images may not be to UK specification. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd. Registered Office: Empire Court, Albert Street, Rochdale, OL16 4DA, United Kingdom. Registration No. 3716766. VAT Registration No. GB725551604. Johnsons Cars Ltd is an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Limited which is Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

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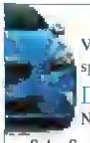

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Oxfordshire Guardian

Welsh undergo tough pre-season training

By Dan Church
news@oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

AVIVA Premiership newboys London Welsh will look to hit the ground running in their upcoming campaign after a gruelling pre season so far.

Under the watchful eye of the club's strength and conditioning team of Ryan Campbell, Lee Eldridge and Matthew Banks the Exiles squad are being strenuously put through their paces at Old Deer Park.

After clinching promotion back to the Premiership with a 43-23 aggregate victory over Bristol back in June, London Welsh are vigorously preparing for their opening clash against Exeter Chiefs on September 7 at the Kassam Stadium.

Campbell said: "The goal of the first four week phase of pre season training is to physically prepare the players for the brutal demands of weekly Premiership, LV= Cup and European competition.

"Our aim as a strength and conditioning department is to provide the rugby coaches with physically fit players who are free of injury."

Eldridge, who has been at the club since 2010, added: "From a mental point of view pre-season is tough but we've got guys who have done lots of them, guys like Tom May and Tim Molenaar. They can help the younger guys.

"The main emphasis from our cycle is strength and conditioning, and then as we move forward the rugby coaches want more pieces of the pie.

"Ryan is very good in terms of making sure that sessions have a purpose. Making someone sick during a session is not our goal.

"Anyone can make someone sick – it's about making people better."

Skills sessions have been short and intense and Campbell added: "This is fantastic as we can improve a player's fitness and skills levels simultaneously.

"This type of work transfers directly to on field performance and is very economical with training time."

An accurately structured time table has the players working on speed and strength development, maintaining their lean body mass and hypertrophy sessions all aimed at getting them up to speed and fitness.

After Welsh's 2012-13 flirtation in the Premiership no one at the club is underestimating what lies ahead.

"It's a massive challenge physically for us, the game is much faster in the Premiership and the impact collisions are greater," said Eldridge.

"Therefore the repeated speed work of the boys and their ability to be able to reproduce force and power during the course of the whole game is something we're developing over this eight week pre season block."

Despite the new season fast approaching the Exiles must first turn their attention to Henley Hawks in a pre-season friendly on August 9 with matches against Wasps and Pontypridd to follow.

▸ *Tom May works his thigh muscles on the leg press*

Three more sign deals with Stars for new season

OXFORD City Stars' squad is shaping up nicely ahead of the new season with Dax Hedges, James Pentecost and Joe Edwards all penning new deals.

Ex-forward Hedges headlined last Thursday's arrivals after the 24-year-old returned to Oxford having taken a year out of the game to travel.

He joins Pentecost and Edwards in Darren Elliott's squad ahead of the National League Division 1 (NIHL1) campaign after the duo signed new one-year deals.

Hedges, who played alongside Edwards in the Division 2 championship winning team of 2012-13, is looking forward to the challenge ahead.

"I'm really happy to be back playing in Oxford," he said.

"It's good to have the team in NIHL1 to give the club and the kids something to aspire to."

Oxford coach Elliott was delighted to be reunited with Hedges at his hometown club.

"We're really pleased to have Dax back," he added.

"He brings a lot of speed and likes to get involved – good points which are sometimes difficult to find."

It comes after Kyle Fleming-ton signed for Stars earlier this month.

Burnell reunited with 'fantastic addition' Down

SECOND row forward James Down has become London Welsh's 24th summer signing after joining from Cardiff Blues last week.

The 26 year-old's arrival continues the Exiles' overhaul after securing promotion back to the Aviva Premiership in June.

His arrival means the 6ft 7in second row will be reunited with London Welsh head coach Justin Burnell, after he brought Down into the Blues' youth system.

Despite being uncapped at full international level, Down was called up to the Wales squad during the 2012 autumn internationals.

Burnell said: "He's played a lot of rugby in different competitions with Cardiff Blues and he's another fantastic addition to our squad.

"I always thought James had a huge amount of potential which he obviously did.

"Coming through the Blues system he played alongside the likes of Bradley Davies and Lon Reed who have both gone on to be full internationals. I still believe James has the potential to do that.

"I'm really pleased to have someone of James's calibre on board, pushing the players already within our squad and helping to add to the competitive edge."

▸ *James Down joins the Welsh line-up (picture by Huw Evans Picture Agency)*

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U'S CLOSE IN ON NEW FORWARD

Appleton looking to bring in striker before friendly with Bournemouth

By **Jack Johnson**
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OXFORD United boss Michael Appleton says the club is "super close" to signing a striker ahead of Saturday's pre-season friendly against Championship side AFC Bournemouth.

Appleton set his sights on bolstering United's attacking options since arriving at the club earlier this month and he is now closer than ever to securing a new frontman.

United's head coach hinted at a new arrival by Saturday after watching his side struggle in the final third in Tuesday's 1-0 defeat to Championship club Wolves.

"It's about getting the right one and from what I'm being told we're not close, we're just super close on certainly one," said Appleton.

"That will give everyone a big lift going into Saturday's game.

"We'll keep our fingers crossed for that one to get over the line."

United currently only have three strikers on their books – Danny Hylton and youngsters Tyrone Marsh and James Roberts.

On Tuesday night, Wolves striker Leon Clarke scored the only goal of the game on 28 minutes while Danny Rose and Callum O'Dowda were the only U's players to test visiting keeper Aaron McCarey.

Goalkeeper George Long and full back Joe Riley both started for the U's after joining on loan this week and Appleton was pleased with the overall performance.

"I thought we more than matched a big club, a decent Championship side," he said.

"The lads showed a hell of a lot more belief in the second half when they realised they could match them and I think it was a really competitive pre-season game.

"It was the first game at home but once we got to grips with the fact that we can play and pass the ball just as well as they can I thought the players acquitted themselves really well."

Johnny Mullins limped off after 27 minutes and his fitness will be assessed ahead of this Saturday's friendly.

United hope to have Alfie Potter available at the weekend after the winger missed Tuesday's game with a calf injury.

Oxford United	**0**
Wolves	**1**

• *Callum O'Dowda battles for the ball with Stephen Ward during Oxford United's 1-0 defeat to Wolves on Tuesday night (Picture by Steve Daniels)*

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